

Message Text

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TO USMISSION NATO

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CINCLANT

USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T STATE 181678

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:MCAP, NATO

SUBJECT: BASIC ISSUES OF DEFENSE PLANNING: WAR RESERVE
STOCKS

REF: USNATO 4215

1. RECOMMEND THAT THE FOLLOWING PROPOSAL BE CIRCULATED AT
SEPTEMBER 13 EWG MEETING IN LIEU OF PROPOSAL IN REFTEL:

BEGIN TEXT:

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THE DRC STANDING SUB-GROUP REPORT ON THE STATE AND LEVEL OF CURRENT WAR RESERVE HOLDINGS (AC/281-REPORT (73) 15) PROVIDES CONSIDERABLE EVIDENCE THAT THERE IS A NEED FOR NEW COMMITMENTS TO THE WAR RESERVE STOCK CRITERIA THAT HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED BY NATO AND SHAPE, THOUGH ALSO NOTING THAT SEVERAL OF THESE RELATED DETAILED PLANNING FACTORS ARE OUT OF DATE. ESPECIALLY OUT OF DATE ARE THE STANDARDS FOR AIR ATTRITION (WHICH HAVE BEEN A POSITIVE DISINCENTIVE TO BUYING AIR MUNITIONS) AND AIR MUNITIONS.

THE EWG STUDY SHOULD SEEK TO PROVIDE A BASIS FOR AGREEMENT THAT STOCKS SHOULD BE REPORTED BY COMMON STANDARDS. THE TIMETABLE FOR ACTUALLY FULFILLING MINIMUM STOCKPILES BY THOSE STANDARDS CAN THEN BE PURSUED. THE RESULT SHOULD BE AN AGREED, LOGICAL POLICY, FULLY SUPPORTED AND IMPLEMENTED.

THE EWG MIGHT CONSIDER RECOMMENDING THAT THE DPC CONFIRM THE FOLLOWING:

A. THAT THERE SHOULD BE A BALANCE AMONG VARIOUS NATIONAL STOCKS, THAT COUNTRIES SHOULD NOT HAVE DIFFERENT CRITERIA FOR MEASUREMENT OF STOCKS OR DIFFERENT STOCK LEVELS WHICH MIGHT LEAVE THE ALLIANCE VULNERABLE BECAUSE OF THE DEFICIENCIES OF ONE.

B. THAT COMMON MEASURES SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED BY WHICH TO JUDGE THE ADEQUACY OF MUNITIONS STOCKPILES.

C. THAT THE NEED FOR ADHERENCE IN THE INTERIM TO SOME MINIMUM MUNITIONS STOCKPILES -- 30 DAYS -- IS REITERATED UNTIL SOME OTHER COMMON MINIMUM OBJECTIVE IS AGREED UPON.

D. THAT, AS A PRINCIPLE, THE MINIMUM MUNITIONS SUSTAINING SUPPORT CAPABILITY WITHIN THE ALLIANCE SHOULD IN ANY CASE BE MORE THAN THE WARSAW PACT IS ADJUDGED TO HAVE. IN ADDITION, THE EWG SHOULD EMPHASIZE THE OBJECTIVE OF ATTAINING APPROPRIATE LEVELS FOR THE MOST CRITICAL ITEMS, SUCH AS MODERN AIR MUNITIONS AND ANTI-SECRET

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TANK MUNITIONS (WHICH SHOULD BE IDENTIFIED BY THE EWG STUDY), BY AN AGREED EARLY DATE. END TEXT. RUSH

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